

## CHANZY'S ARMY.

Herald Special Report of the  
Great Struggle.Conclusion of the Battle of  
Le Mans.Disastrous Repulse of the  
French Assault.

Animated Scenes on the Battle Field.

Attack on General Chanzy's  
Headquarters.Heroic Resistance of the  
French.

THE CARNAGE FRIGHTFUL.

A Fatal Night Assault and French  
Panic.

THE BATTLE LOST AND WON.

Reorganization of the  
French Army.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

I give below the continuation of your correspond-  
ent's report of the second day's battle of Le Mans—  
RESUME.

[The first part, which was published in the HERALD of yesterday, gave an account of the preparations made by the French to receive the Germans. Admiral Jourequeberry's corps, on the right bank of the Huisne river, was first driven from its position; but the advance of the Germans was checked by the French reserves of artillery, which came up at a timely moment. A fierce attack was also made on the line of the French across the Chartres and Paris Railroad, resulting in the French centre retiring for a short distance to the rear, where they made a stand. In the afternoon the Germans endeavored to split Chanzy's army in two and get between it and Le Mans, but they failed. At four o'clock, however, the German tactics changed. They massed heavily on the French right and endeavored to gain possession of the village of Brette. To prevent this the French advanced to dislodge them.]

THE FRENCH REPULSE AND RETREAT.

Continuing, the HERALD correspondent says:—A large body of French infantry advanced in good order across the plain, but were compelled to retire with heavy losses before a murderous fire from both artillery and musketry. The contest for the possession of Brette was kept up at this point till dark, when an order reached the French to fall back upon Le Mans.

A CORRESPONDENT'S EXPERIENCES.

My own personal experience of the battle commenced at one o'clock, when I reached the heights on the French left. The day was not cold, although the ground was still covered with eight inches of snow, which was melting beneath the rays of a hot sun. The air was clear and crisp and the clouds blue and golden. At an early hour the streets of Le Mans, which were not more than five miles from the battle field, were thronged by excited crowds and numerous wagons filled with ammunition and supplies, ready to start for a place of safety in the rear in case there was an unfavorable result to the fight.

AN ANIMATED SCENE.

At noon I succeeded in receiving transportation to the front, and, reaching the bluffs east of Le Mans, obtained the first view of the battle on the French left. I passed on the road numerous ammunition trains belonging to the artillery going backwards and forwards in what appeared to be disorder. Numerous groups of stragglers were also seen, some wounded, going to the rear, although these seemed to be accompanied by an unnecessarily large number of unwounded men. Many ambulances passed to and fro, some going to the front, others returning with loads of suffering creatures. One poor fellow had fallen down on the roadside from loss of blood. He had been wounded through the arm above the elbow. I gave him some brandy and got him into a passing ambulance.

DODGING BALLS.

Along the line of the railroad every available point was commanded by a strong force of infantry. The Prussians were less than a mile distant, and balls occasionally rattled against the branches of the tall trees growing on the side of the road. As a general rule self-preservation seemed to be the prevailing sentiment of the soldiers as well as civilians, judging from the fact that every time the evidence of deadly visitors was heard the ground would be covered by prostrate forms.

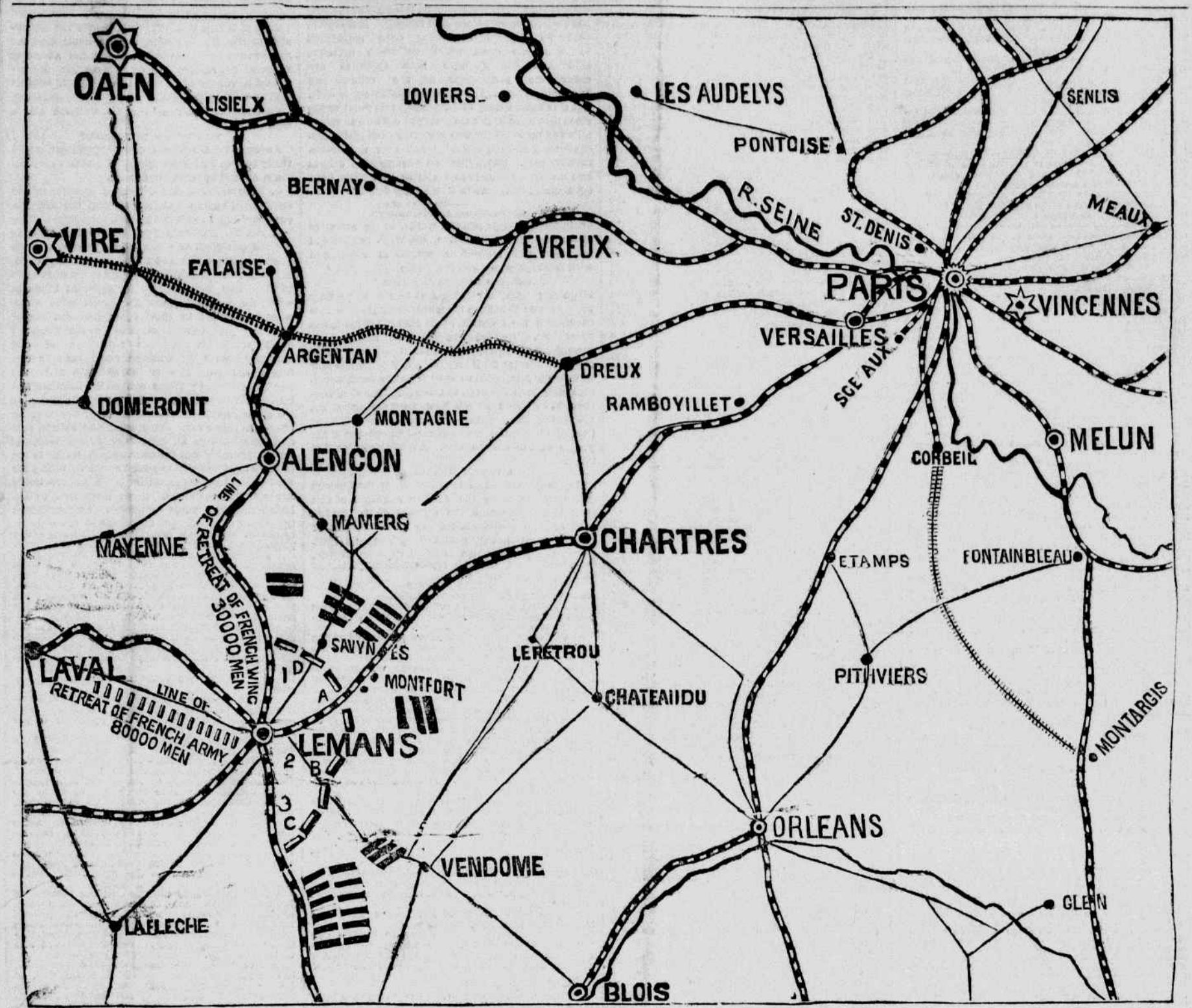
APPEARANCE OF THE BATTLE FIELD.

Before two o'clock I reached a mountainous eminence four miles east of Le Mans, where I had a good view of a portion of the battle field. Partly up the eminence I passed a farm house, deserted by its inmates, which had been struck by a cannon ball. The crest of the elevation was occupied by a strong force of Gardes Mobiles and six batteries of artillery, but they did not seem capable of effective service. The battle field below, stretching out for miles before me, had the appearance of a chessboard, the white squares being the open fields of snow and the black ones the patches of woods. As far as the movements on the battle field were concerned it seemed impossible to understand which side had the advantage. The heavy smoke here and there told where the artillery was doing murderous work, and occasional movements of infantry were seen, looking wonderfully insignificant from the distance.

ATTACK ON CHANZY'S HEADQUARTERS.

Despairing of gaining any definite idea of the results there, I obtained information of the position of General Chanzy's headquarters and hastened to find him. I reached the position at half-past three o'clock and found General Chanzy, attired in red pantaloons, with a jaunty hat setting off to advantage his singularly handsome countenance. Here I remained. At four o'clock in the evening the Germans advanced by columns, covered by a heavy artillery fire, against the Chateau des Chartres, a pretty country place near the headquarters. Here, for the first time, the French batteries hitherto in the reserve opened fire and apparently took the Germans completely by surprise, for it caused their

## THE BATTLE OF LE MANS.

Diagram of the Battlefield--Positions of the Opposing Forces---Points Struck By the  
Germans---The French Lines of Retreat.CHANZY'S BATTLE FIELD  
AND LINE OF RETREAT.

The map published above gives a clear idea of the positions of the French and German armies during the second day's battle at Le Mans. The open blocks, forming an irregular semicircle, with their flanks resting on the railroads running north and south of Le Mans, represent the French line of battle. The figure 1 describes the position of Admiral Jourequeberry's corps, which rested on the right bank of the Huisne, a small river running parallel with the railroad to Chartres and Paris. Jourequeberry's corps formed the left wing of the French army. Near the Huisne the first severe assault was made, the Germans succeeding, after a desperate struggle, in gaining an important position near the river, somewhat depressing the French line, although it remained intact, as the French did not retreat any considerable distance, but merely fell back and took up a new position in the rear of that previously held by them. The scene of this encounter is indicated on the map by the letter "A."

General Colomb's corps (the Seventeenth) formed the centre of the French army and is represented by the figure 2. It covered the plateau of Anjou and seems to have held its position throughout the day, although several severe assaults were made upon it. The fighting here, however, which is indicated by the letter "B," was not as sanguinary as on the other parts of the line.

General Joffre's corps (the Twenty-first) formed the right wing of the French army and is represented by the figure 3. Here the fighting was exceedingly desperate and the carnage frightful. It was here that the Germans massed in immense numbers after dark, as reported by our correspondent who witnessed the engagement, and by a sudden

advance to waver. The irresolution, however, was only momentary. With characteristic German obstinacy the Germans again pressed forward and attacked the French infantry which occupied the terraced road below the headquarters of General Chanzy.

AN ORDERLY RETREAT.

It soon became evident that the French would be unable to withstand the heavy charges made by their enemy. Nevertheless the struggle was exceedingly obstinate and well maintained till about five o'clock, when an order was given for a backward movement. As the French infantry slowly fell back the artillery was brought to the front, and it maintained a steady fire upon the German line, successfully covering the retreat. The Germans, apparently in contempt of their partial success, seemed disinclined to pursue the advantage they had gained in the day's fighting. General Chanzy actively superintended the retreat, which was never disorderly at any time.

HOPEFUL OF THE MORROW.

In fact the French still held the strongest positions, and it was believed that the day was not irrecoverably adverse to them. They had been forced back from their original line of battle, but that was all. There had been no rout, no disorderly breaking of brigades or even battalions. I have reason to know that General Chanzy did not despair of final success. He expected a fierce struggle, prolonged through several days, and hoped to renew the battle under better auspices to-morrow. Thus, after a bloody encounter, lasting until dark, in which the carnage had been fearful on both sides, nothing decisive had been gained by the Germans. All their successes had been negative, and the French officers and soldiers remained hopeful that the close of to-morrow would see them victorious over their enemy.

A FATAL NIGHT ATTACK.

But an event occurred which made a total change in the prospects of the French. It was an event common enough in the history of war. Had it failed the result would have been disastrous to the Germans. It succeeded and shattered the hopes of the French. Darkness had fallen upon the battle field, or, rather, I should say that day had gone; for the evening was not very dark. One could see

and unexpected attack changed what had been an indecisive though bloody battle to a disastrous defeat for the French. The letter "C" indicates the point struck by the Germans, who are represented on the map at this part of the line in two long columns of solid blocks. All the solid blocks represent the German forces.

From the wording of our correspondent's report we are inclined to the opinion that the Germans advanced in massed columns (the old Prussian squares) and not in a continuous line of battle. This is apparent from the fact that on some parts of the French line there was little or no fighting. All the main efforts of the Germans seem to have been directed against the French left centre and extreme right. They failed, however, to make any serious impression upon the left centre, although they forced it back. It was not, in fact, until after the rout of the extreme right and disorderly flight of the Gardes Mobiles of Brittany that the centre and left of the French army was compelled to make a rapid though orderly retreat.

Nevertheless, the announcement made by Prince Frederick Charles indicates that either the extreme left of the French was pierced or that in the retreat upon Le Mans, after dark, a portion of Jourequeberry's corps was cut off from the main body of the army and forced to retire in the direction of Alencon. We have endeavored to locate this disaster by the letter "D," which will be found in the rear of the French line near the railroad to Alencon. It is more than likely that the French column was cut off more by the rapid pursuit of the Germans than by any deliberate purpose of theirs.

As we remarked a few days ago, the tactics of Prince Frederick Charles comprehended the crushing in of the two wings of Chanzy's army, primarily to prevent the French retreating either south to Angers or north to Alencon, and secondarily, to cut off all their lines of retreat if possible.

the vast fields of snow, dotted here and there by dark objects—the bodies of the victims of the day's struggle—while the patches of woods rose up grimly from the midst of the white fields. Suddenly, and without their preparations attracting attention, a strong force of Germans renewed the battle. Making toward the French right at La Tillerie, the most important position held by the Army of the Loire, immense masses of infantry, supported by a large force of cavalry, advanced with the utmost rapidity, scattering in all directions the French forces opposed to them.

A GENERAL RETREAT.

The attack was not anticipated by the French. The suddenness and rapidity with which the movement was executed took them completely by surprise, and but little resistance was offered. At the onset the Gardes Mobiles of Brittany were seized with panic and fled in great disorder. This completely destroyed the French line of battle, as their whole force on the right bank of the Huisne was compelled to make a rapid retreat to save itself from capture.

THE FUTURE PROSPECT.

It is impossible at this writing to describe the effect of this unforeseen disaster. It may—I can almost say it will—compel the evacuation of Le Mans, if it does not result in the breaking up of General Chanzy's army. A council of war is now in session in Le Mans. If the second French Army of the Loire is lost all hope for France is gone.

Chanzy's Army Reorganized—Quite a Different  
Story—Another Battle Expected.

LONDON, June 16, 1871.  
It is announced that General Chanzy's Army of the Loire has been reorganized and is about to resume operations. The positions held by General Chanzy's forces are very strong.

QUITE A DIFFERENT STORY.

Despatches from Versailles state that Prince Frederick Charles announces that Chanzy's army is broken up, disorganized and retreating in three directions.  
Twenty thousand prisoners have been taken. The battle was a decisive victory for the Prussians and a crushing defeat for the French.  
ANOTHER BATTLE EXPECTED.  
A Bordeaux despatch dated to-day states that General Chanzy reports minor engagements with the advanced guard of the enemy yesterday, and that he expects a general attack to-day.  
MORE FIGHTING ON SUNDAY.  
Another despatch from Bordeaux of to-day's date states that the Germans attacked General Chanzy yesterday. The army resisted well, except in the centre.

In this latter design he failed. We show on the map the road taken by the main body of the French army, which we estimate at 80,000 men. As will be seen it goes to Laval a considerable place, being west-northwest of Le Mans. The column cut off we estimate at 30,000 men. Its line of march is toward Alencon, almost due north of Le Mans. We doubt, however, if the Germans can prevent this column forming a junction with the main body of the army now near Laval. By a rapid flank march on Mayenne it ought, without difficulty, to become reunited to the extreme left of Chanzy's new position. But at any rate there will be nothing to prevent its retreating to Ponges and thence marching eastward to Laval.

It will be noticed that in our estimates of the French retreating columns we give Chanzy a total of 110,000 men remaining. This, of course, includes stragglers and disorganized regiments, no matter how numerous they may be. According to our correspondent Chanzy went into action with 150,000 men, of which the Germans have captured 20,000, and if we estimate the killed and wounded at the same number it will make his total loss 40,000. This is scarcely too high an estimate. Our correspondent reported the French losses on the first day at 15,000, and, considering the greater magnitude of the second day's battle, we can hardly exaggerate in estimating their losses at 25,000 more. What is worthy of note is the small number of cannons captured. Twelve pieces of artillery is all the Germans claim to have taken. It indicates either a cautiousness on the part of the French amounting to timidity, or admirable management of the guns. Chanzy is said to have had four hundred pieces in his army.

We have had no reports whatever of the German losses, excepting the bare statement that they were heavy. It is safe, however, to place them at one-half of the French losses—20,000 men.

## OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH.

The Germans Executing a  
Flank Movement.

FAIDHERBE ADVANCING ON AMIENS.

Longwy Menaced with Bom-  
bardment.

PREPARATIONS TO BESIEGE THE FORTRESS.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

A despatch from Havre says there is constant skirmishing near that city.

THREATENING THE FRENCH LEFT WING.

It is reported that the Prussians are turning the left wing of General Faidherbe's Army of the North and menacing Cambrai.

FAIDHERBE ADVANCING.

A despatch from Lille says the army of General Faidherbe is daily receiving reinforcements and is advancing. It encamped during Sunday at Albert, supported on its right by the divisions of Generals Pansee and Devoy and on the left by that of General Favre. The division of General Robin remains at Bapaume.

FIGHTING NEAR LONGWY.

The Prussians menace a bombardment of Longwy and the women and children are flying into Belgium and Luxembourg. There was quite a heavy fight on Saturday near Longwy, in which both infantry and artillery were engaged.

PREPARING TO BESIEGE THE FORTRESS.

A despatch from Brussels, dated to-day, states that the Prussians have destroyed the bridge over the Chiers, between Longwy and Arlon. The material for the bombardment of Longwy is being rapidly concentrated in the interior.

## BOURBAKI'S ADVANCE.

Manteuffel in Command of  
the Germans.

THE FRENCH PRESSING FORWARD

SEVERE BATTLE NEAR HERICOURT.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

The command of the German Army of the Vosges is assigned to General Manteuffel. This army will comprehend General Von Werder's forces, which are to be greatly augmented.

FIGHTING NEAR HERICOURT.

A despatch from Pruntrut, dated the 13th, reports severe fighting all that day between Hericourt and Croix, in the Department of Haute-Saone, which had not ceased at a late hour in the evening. The result was unknown. Large reinforcements are stated to be coming from the North to the German Army of the East.

BOURBAKI NEARING RELFORT.

A Bordeaux despatch dated January 16 states that General Bourbaki continues to approach Relfort. He was fighting yesterday and occupied Montbéliard. The battle was resumed to-day.

BELGIUM.

Military Neutrality—Danger of Belligerent Violation of the Border Soil.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 16, 1871.

I have been assured, on what I regard as very respectable authority, that it is exceedingly probable that 30,000 Belgian troops will be concentrated upon the French border in case General Faidherbe is forced back to the frontier.

AUSTRIA.

Neutral and Friendly, but Not Mediating in the War.

BERLIN, Jan. 16, 1871.

The semi-official Prussian statement is made that the rumor that Austria has offered her services as a mediator between Prussia and France is at least premature.

## PARIS BOMBARDED.

Herald Special Report from  
the Besieging Army.Desperate Sortie on the Saxon Lines  
on Sunday.

THE FRENCH EVERYWHERE REPULSED.

Fort Issy Destroyed and Mont-  
rouge Breached.

FIERCE AND INCESSANT BOMBARDMENT.

Narrow Escape of Von  
Moltke.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

The correspondent of the London Times telegraphs from Le Vert Gaillard under date of yesterday the following intelligence, which I forward specially for the NEW YORK HERALD:—

ANOTHER SORTIE REPULSED.

Early this morning (January 15) the French in large force issued from Bondy and Gossay under cover of a furious cannonade and made a desperate attack on the investing lines held by the Saxon troops, extending for a considerable distance. They advanced on Mont Avron and other points. At the same time there was another sortie from between Fort de l'Est and St. Denis upon Le Bourget. The French were repulsed everywhere and driven back in confusion to their works.

Fort Issy Destroyed and Montrouge Breached—A Fatal Affair—Fort Mont Valerien—The French Dash at Charent-le-Petit—General Matters—Fierce Bombardment—Narrow Escape of Von Moltke.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

I have received the following despatch from the NEW YORK HERALD correspondent at Versailles, dated January 15, giving an account of the operations around Paris. Your correspondent writes:—

FORTS BREACHED AND RUINED.

From half-past one till five o'clock yesterday afternoon the bombardment continued vigorously, with but two intermissions of ten and twenty-five minutes respectively. The results of the German fire have thus far been great. The destruction of Fort Issy has been virtually achieved, and Fort Montrouge has been breached so completely that from a point near Sceaux I can see right through to the enclosure of Paris some distance beyond. The barracks of the fort have been utterly burned down. Fort Montrouge will be furiously shelled to-day.

A FATAL AFFAIR.

Yesterday while the French were engaged in bringing troops across the railroad bridge to the left bank of the river, near Bas Meudon, several shells struck the bridge while it was crowded with them. It broke down, precipitating the soldiers from a great height. Many of them were crushed to death.

FORT MOST VALERIE.

The French batteries at the village of Boulogne kept up a steady fire during the greater part of yesterday. Fort Mont Valerien ceased firing at two o'clock yesterday afternoon, but resumed an hour later and has kept up an intermittent fire ever since.

THE FRENCH DASH AT CLAMART.

At Notre Dame de Clamart, during the French dash at the old breastworks yesterday, one officer and twenty men of the Sixth Bavarian Infantry were taken prisoners. A Bavarian Lieutenant was bayoneted three times and died last night from the effects of his wounds, which were very severe.

GENERAL MATTERS.

After breakfasting with King William yesterday General Manteuffel left Versailles for his new command in the east of France. Owing to the extreme elevation of the guns in the German batteries surrounding Paris, many of the gun carriages have been seriously strained.

LATER—FIERCE BOMBARDMENT.

At this hour—four o'clock in the afternoon of January 12—the heaviest firing we have yet had is proceeding. It is directed mainly against Fort Montrouge, the bombardment of which has been absolutely unceasing for the past twelve hours.

NARROW ESCAPE OF VON MOLTKE.

General Von Moltke had a narrow escape from death to-day. When returning from a visit to the batteries on the southwestern side of Paris a shell from one of the French forts burst close to his carriage, covering himself and his aids with mud, ice and frozen earth.

THE WEATHER.

The frost continues to make the roads almost impassable to horses and vehicles. There have been, however, very few cases of frost-bites.

Issy, Vanvres and Montrouge Silent—Vigorous Sorties on the German Line—Repulse of the French at all Points.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

A despatch from Versailles says the bombardment of Paris continued on the 14th. Forts Issy, Vanvres and Montrouge were silent.

VIGOROUS SORTIES.

Another despatch received from Versailles, dated on the night of the 13th, says that vigorous sorties have been made by the garrison of Paris in three several directions. The French simultaneously advanced against the Prussian guards near Le Bourget and Draucy, northeast of Paris; against the Eleventh German corps near Meudon, southwest of Paris, and against the Second Bavarian corps, near Clamart, also to the south of the city.

REFULS OF THE FRENCH.

The fighting in each instance was spirited, but resulted everywhere in the defeat of the French, who, repulsed at all points, retreated rapidly within their works, a portion of them in great disorder.

Progress of the Bombardment—Laudatory Order from Trochu—King William to Leave Versailles.

LONDON, Jan. 16, 1871.

The Pall Mall Gazette has special despatches from Paris to Saturday.

THE BOMBARDMENT.

The bombardment was slowly maintained against Fort Nogent and Montmartre all day Friday, but was general on Saturday. The French accuse the Prussians of using petroleum shells.

TROUCH LAUDING HIS TROOPS.

General Trochu in his order of the day renews

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